

Union Calendar No. 503

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4521

[Report No. 106-848]

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to authorize and provide funding for rehabilitation of the Going-to-the-Sun Road in Glacier National Park, to authorize funds for maintenance of utilities related to the Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2000

Mr. HILL of Montana (for himself, Mr. KASICH, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. CANNON, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. COOKSEY, Ms. DUNN, Mr. PITTS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. COOK, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. RILEY, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. GIBBONS, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. POMBO, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. SIMPSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

SEPTEMBER 14, 2000

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 23, 2000]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to authorize and provide funding for rehabilitation of the Going-to-the-

Sun Road in Glacier National Park, to authorize funds for maintenance of utilities related to the Park, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 *Congress makes the following findings:*

5 (1) *The historic significance of the 52-mile*
 6 *Going-to-the-Sun Road is recognized by its listing on*
 7 *the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, des-*
 8 *ignation as a National Historic Engineering Land-*
 9 *mark by the American Society of Civil Engineers in*
 10 *1985, and designation as a National Historic Land-*
 11 *mark in 1997.*

12 (2) *A contracted engineering study and Federal*
 13 *Highway Administration recommendations in 1997*
 14 *of the Going-to-the-Sun Road verified significant*
 15 *structural damage to the road that has occurred since*
 16 *it opened in 1932.*

17 (3) *Infrastructure at most of the developed areas*
 18 *is inadequate for cold-season (fall, winter, and*
 19 *spring) operation, and maintenance backlog needs*
 20 *exist for normal summer operation.*

21 (4) *The Many Glacier Hotel and Lake McDonald*
 22 *Lodge are on the National Register of Historic Places*
 23 *and are National Historic Landmarks. Other accom-*

modations operated by the concessioner with
possessory interest and listed on the National Register
of Historic Places are the Rising Sun Motor Inn and
Swiftcurrent Motel.

(5) The historic hotels in Glacier National Park,
operated under concession agreements with the Na-
tional Park Service, are essential for public use and
enjoyment of the Park.

(6) Public consumers deserve safe hotels in Gla-
cier National Park that can meet their basic needs
and expectations.

(7) The historic hotels in Glacier National Park
are significantly deteriorated and need substantial re-
pair.

(8) Repairs of the hotels in Glacier National
Park have been deferred for so long that, absent any
changes to Federal law and the availability of historic
tax credits, the remodeling costs for the hotels may ex-
ceed the capacity of an investor to finance them solely
out of hotel revenues.

(9) The current season of operation for hotels is
approximately 4 months because the developed areas
lack water, sewer, and fire protection systems that
can operate in freezing conditions, lack building insu-
lation, and lack heating systems.

1 (10) *The National Park Service Concessions*
 2 *Management Improvement Act of 1998 is based upon*
 3 *sound principles and is achieving its basic purposes,*
 4 *but there appear to be selected instances where the*
 5 *National Park Service may need additional authority*
 6 *to conduct demonstration projects.*

7 (11) *A demonstration project is needed for the*
 8 *repair of the historic hotels in Glacier National Park.*

9 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

10 *In this Act:*

11 (1) *ADVISORY COMMITTEE.*—*The term “Advisory*
 12 *Committee” means the Going-to-the-Sun Road Citi-*
 13 *zens Advisory Committee.*

14 (2) *PARK.*—*The term “Park” means Glacier Na-*
 15 *tional Park.*

16 (3) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
 17 *the Secretary of the Interior.*

18 **SEC. 3. GOING-TO-THE-SUN ROAD STUDY.**

19 (a) *FEASIBILITY STUDY.*—*Not later than December 31,*
 20 *2001, the Secretary, in consultation with Advisory Com-*
 21 *mittee, shall complete a feasibility study for rehabilitation*
 22 *of Going-to-the-Sun Road located in the Park. The study*
 23 *shall include—*

1 (1) *alternatives for rehabilitation of Going-to-*
2 *the-Sun Road and a ranking of the feasibility of each*
3 *alternative;*

4 (2) *an estimate of the length of time necessary to*
5 *complete each alternative;*

6 (3) *a description of what mitigation efforts*
7 *would be used to preserve resources and minimize ad-*
8 *verse economic effects of each alternative;*

9 (4) *an analysis of the costs and benefits of each*
10 *alternative;*

11 (5) *an estimate of the cost of each alternative;*

12 (6) *an analysis of the economic impact of each*
13 *alternative;*

14 (7) *an analysis of long-term maintenance needs,*
15 *standards, and schedules for the road, alternatives to*
16 *accomplish the rehabilitation, maintenance staff*
17 *needs, and associated cost estimates;*

18 (8) *a draft of the environmental impact state-*
19 *ment required under section 102(2)(C) of the National*
20 *Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.*
21 *4332(2)(C)); and*

22 (9) *an analysis of improvements to any trans-*
23 *portation system relating to the Park that are needed*
24 *inside or outside the Park.*

1 (b) *CONTINUATION MAINTENANCE.*—*Nothing in this*
2 *section shall affect the duty of the Secretary to continue the*
3 *program in effect on the day before the date of the enactment*
4 *of this Act to preserve, maintain, and address safety con-*
5 *cerns related to Going-to-the-Sun Road.*

6 (c) *IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.*—*As soon as prac-*
7 *ticable after completing the study required by subsection*
8 *(a), the Secretary shall—*

9 (1) *consider the recommendations of the Advisory*
10 *Committee;*

11 (2) *choose an alternative for rehabilitation of the*
12 *Going-to-the-Sun Road from the alternatives included*
13 *in the study based upon the final environmental im-*
14 *pact statement required under section 102(2)(C) of*
15 *the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42*
16 *U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)); and*

17 (3) *begin implementation of a plan based on*
18 *that choice.*

19 *Implementation actions that are authorized include reha-*
20 *bilitation of Going-to-the-Sun Road and expenditure of*
21 *funds inside or outside the Park for transportation system*
22 *improvements related to the Park and impact mitigation*
23 *if recommended by the study and the Advisory Committee.*
24 *The Secretary shall also seek funding for the long-term*
25 *maintenance needs that the study identifies.*

1 (d) *REPORT*.—Not later than 30 days after completion
 2 of the study required under subsection (a), the Secretary
 3 shall submit a copy of the study to—

4 (1) the Committee on Resources and the Com-
 5 mittee on Appropriations of the House of Representa-
 6 tives; and

7 (2) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
 8 sources and the Committee on Appropriations of the
 9 Senate.

10 (e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS*.—There are
 11 authorized to be appropriated \$200,000,000 to the Secretary
 12 to carry out this section, including—

13 (1) implementation of the plan under subsection
 14 (c); and

15 (2) the cost of any necessary environmental or
 16 cultural documentation and monitoring, including
 17 the draft environmental impact statement required
 18 under subsection (a)(8).

19 **SEC. 4. MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADE OF UTILITY SYSTEMS.**

20 (a) *IN GENERAL*.—As soon as practicable after funds
 21 are made available under this section, the Secretary shall
 22 begin the upgrade and continue the maintenance of utility
 23 systems which service the Park and facilities related to the
 24 Park.

1 (b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There are*
2 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out*
3 *this section, \$20,000,000.*

4 **SEC. 5. VISITOR FACILITIES PLAN.**

5 (a) *PLAN FOR VISITOR FACILITIES.*—*Not later than*
6 *December 31, 2001, the Secretary shall complete a com-*
7 *prehensive plan for visitor facilities in the Park. The com-*
8 *prehensive plan shall include the following:*

9 (1) *A completed commercial services plan, as*
10 *called for in the Park General Management Plan.*

11 (2) *A plan for private financing of rehabilitation*
12 *of lodging facilities and associated property that are*
13 *listed on the National Register of Historic Places or*
14 *are part of a district listed on the National Register*
15 *of Historic Places, which may include historic tax*
16 *credits, hotel revenue, and other financing alter-*
17 *natives as deemed appropriate by the Secretary, and*
18 *which may include options such as extending the*
19 *Park's visitor season, additional visitor facilities, and*
20 *other options as deemed appropriate by the Secretary*
21 *in order to recover the rehabilitation costs.*

22 (3) *A financial analysis of the plan under para-*
23 *graph (2).*

24 (4) *A plan by the Secretary to provide necessary*
25 *assistance to appropriate interested entities for the*

1 *restoration or comparable replacement of tour buses*
2 *for use in the Park.*

3 (5) *A plan for a new visitors center at the west*
4 *side of the Park, including an appropriate location*
5 *and design for the center and suitable housing and*
6 *display facilities for museum objects of the Park as*
7 *set forth in the Park General Management Plan, in-*
8 *cluding any studies required to be carried out under*
9 *the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42*
10 *U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other applicable laws.*

11 (6) *A parkwide natural and cultural resources*
12 *assessment, in accordance with sections 203 and 204*
13 *of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of*
14 *1998 (Public Law 105–391; 112 Stat. 3497), includ-*
15 *ing a comprehensive inventory of resources of the*
16 *Park.*

17 (7) *A description of any additional authority re-*
18 *quested by the Secretary to implement the comprehen-*
19 *sive plan.*

20 (b) *SUBMISSION OF PLAN.—The Secretary shall sub-*
21 *mit copies of the comprehensive plan to the Committee on*
22 *Resources of the House of Representatives and the Com-*
23 *mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.*

24 (c) *IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—As soon as prac-*
25 *ticable after completion of the comprehensive plan, the Sec-*

1 *retary shall implement the comprehensive plan, including*
2 *construct the visitors center pursuant to the plan required*
3 *by subsection (a)(5).*

4 *(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is*
5 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$1,000,000*
6 *to complete the comprehensive plan.*

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